

Message Text

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ACTION HEW-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SSO-00 SS-15 NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01

USIA-15 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 L-03 OC-06

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UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 MOSCOW 10761

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, OTRA, UR (WEINBERGER, C.W.)

SUBJ: SECRETARY WEINBERGER'S TRIP TO USSR

JOINT COMMUNIQUE OF SECRETARY WEINBERGER AND MINISTER PETROVSKY
WAS TRANSMITTED THIS MORNING SEPTEMBER 7, AS FIRST MESSAGE
USING NEW TELEX LINK BETWEEN DHEW AND USSR MINHEALTH.
BEGIN TEXT:

"AT THE INVITATION OF THE MINISTER OF HEALTH OF THE UNION
OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS, BORIS V. PETROVSKY, THE SECRETARY
OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE OF THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA, CASPAR W. WEINBERGER, VISITED THE SOVIET UNION FROM
AUGUST 30-SEPTEMBER 7, 1973. SECRETARY WEINBERGER CAME TO THE
USSR TO RETURN MINISTER PETROVSKY'S VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES
IN 1972, AND TO REVIEW THE PROGRESS OF ACTIVITIES UNDER THE
US-USSR AGREEMENT ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF MEDICAL
SCIENCE AND PUBLIC HEALTH, SIGNED MAY 23, 1972, DURING THE
VISIT OF PRESIDENT NIXON TO THE USSR. SECRETARY WEINBERGER'S
VISIT ALSO WAS DESIGNED TO PROVIDE HIM AND HIS DELEGATION WITH
A MORE COMPLETE UNDERSTANDING OF HEALTH, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC
WELFARE SERVICES IN THE SOVIET UNION; AND TO DISCUSS ADDITIONAL
WAYS IN WHICH INCREASED COOPERATION AND EFFECTIVE FRIENDSHIP
BETWEEN THE SOVIET AND AMERICAN PEOPLES COULD BE DEVELOPED.
SECRETARY WEINBERGER WAS ACCOMPANIED BY DR. CHARLES C. EDWARDS,
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ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR HEALTH, ROGER O. EGEBERG, SPECIAL

ASSISTANT FOR HEALTH POLICY AND SEVERAL MEMBERS OF HIS STAFF.

"N. V. PODGORNYY, CHAIRMAN OF THE PRESIDUM OF THE SUPREME SOVIET OF THE USSR, WELCOMED SECRETARY WEINBERGER IN A MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 3. A FRIENDLY TALK TOOK PLACE BETWEEN SECRETARY WEINBERGER AND PRESIDENT PODGORNYY IN THE COURSE OF WHICH QUESTIONS WERE TOUCHED UPON OF DEVELOPING RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION, AS WELL AS OF SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION BETWEEN AMERICAN AND SOVIET MEDICAL WORKERS.

"DURING THE VISIT, SECRETARY WEINBERGER AND MINISTER PETROVSKY ANNOUNCED THE INSTALLATION AND COMPLETION OF A TELEX RAPID COMMUNICATION LINE BETWEEN THE USSR MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE. THIS IS A SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT WHICH WILL ENABLE SCIENTISTS FROM BOTH COUNTRIES IMMEDIATELY TO EXCHANGE SUCH IMPORTANT INFORMATION AS THE EFFECTIVENESS OF EXPERIMENTAL CANCER DRUGS AND DATA FROM COLLABORATIVE EXPERIMENTS. THIS COMMUNIQUE IS TRANSMITTED AS THE FIRST MESSAGE.

"DURING THEIR EXTENSIVE CONVERSATIONS, MINISTER PETROVSKY AND SECRETARY WEINBERGER AND THEIR STAFFS CAREFULLY REVIEWED PROGRESS TO DATE UNDER THE US-USSR AGREEMENT ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF MEDICAL SCIENCE AND PUBLIC HEALTH AND DEFINED FUTURE PLANS FOR US-USSR HEALTH COOPERATION, WHICH WOULD RECEIVE HIGH PRIORITY IN THEIR RESPECTIVE DEPARTMENTS. THEY EXPRESSED SATISFACTION THAT EXCELLENT PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN THE COOPERATIVE AREAS OF HEART DISEASE AND CANCER, AND FOR THE USEFUL PRELIMINARY WORK IN ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, WHICH REPRESENTS AN EXTREMELY COMPLEX FIELD. FURTHER PROGRESS WAS NOW NEEDED IN ALL THREE AREAS. THE MINISTER AND THE SECRETARY BELIEVE THEIR TALKS WILL RESULT IN SUCH PROGRESS.

"FIFTEEN SPECIFIC PROBLEM AREAS HAVE BEEN DEFINED WITHIN THE THREE MAIN CATEGORIES, AND DETAILED WORK PLANS HAVE BEEN JOINTLY DEVELOPED BY SOVIET AND AMERICAN SCIENTISTS. IMPLEMENTATION OF THESE WORK PLANS WILL NOW PROCEED EVEN MORE RAPIDLY THAN IN THE PAST YEAR, WHICH HAS PROPERLY BEEN DEVOTED TO AGREEING ON COMMON TECHNIQUES, METHODS, AND PROCEDURES.

"SECRETARY WEINBERGER AND MINISTER PETROVSKY NOTED THAT ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED TO DATE UNDER THE HEALTH AGREEMENT HAVE ESTABLISHED A SOUND METHODOLOGICAL BASIS FOR US-USSR HEALTH COOPERATION. THIS WILL FORM THE BASIS FOR THE FUTURE LONG-RANGE PROGRAM OF COLLABORATION.

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"SECRETARY WEINBERGER AND MINISTER PETROVSKY AGREED THAT THEY WOULD ADD THE PROBLEM OF ARTHRITIS TO THE THREE PREVIOUSLY AGREED AREAS OF COOPERATION UNDER THE AGREEMENT. THIS DECISION WAS BASED UPON THE WIDESPREAD SUFFERING FROM THIS DISEASE IN BOTH COUNTRIES, AND THE ADVANTAGES IN ATTACKING ARTHRITIS ON THE SAME JOINT BASIS NOW BEING APPLIED TO HEART DISEASE, CANCER AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH.

"THEY ALSO AGREED DURING THE NEXT YEAR TO EXAMINE CAREFULLY

THE POSSIBILITY OF CONSIDERING INFLUENZA AS AN ADDITIONAL ILLNESS TO BE STUDIED JOINTLY.

"THE SECRETARY AND THE MINISTER ALSO AGREED:

"1. TO CONTINUE TO FOSTER JOINT ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD OF MENTAL ILLNESS, BASED ON THE AGREEMENTS ALREADY ACHIEVED BETWEEN AMERICAN AND SOVIET INSTITUTIONS.

"2. TO STUDY THE ORGANIZATIONAL PATTERNS BEST SUITED TO A CONSIDERATION OF OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH, AND TO EXCHANGE INFORMATION AND FINDINGS ON SUCH MATTERS.

"3. ENHANCE THE EXCHANGE VISITS BY PROVIDING, WHEN NECESSARY, INTERPRETER SERVICES FOR AMERICAN AND SOVIET DELEGATIONS ON THEIR RECIPROCAL VISITS.

"4. TO FOSTER MORE JOINT PUBLICATIONS BETWEEN SCIENTISTS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES.

"5. TO STUDY IN DETAIL THE ACTUAL DELIVERY OF HEALTH SERVICES IN BOTH COUNTRIES.

"6. TO EXAMINE THE POSSIBILITY OF SHARING THROUGH COMPUTER TERMINALS AND OTHERWISE THE INFORMATION ASSEMBLED BY THE U.S. NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE AND THE USSR INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL INFORMATION.

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